

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): A method for protecting an original audio signal against unauthorized recording thereof by a recorder, comprising:

combining the original audio signal with at least one inaudible disturbance signal for providing a combined signal,

said combining being such that the combined signal sounds undisturbed when played and a recording of the combined signal by said recorder is disturbed,

wherein the at least one inaudible disturbance signal includes a high-frequency disturbance signal which is multiplied with the original audio signal, the high-frequency disturbance signal having a frequency of approximately 20 kHz, and

the original audio signal comprises a digital signal representation involving a sampling frequency, and wherein the high-frequency disturbance signal has a frequency which varies in time, preferably from approximately half to approximately three quarters of the sampling frequency.

Claims 24-29 (Canceled).

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A device for protecting an original audio signal against unauthorized recording thereof by a recorder, comprising:

signal generation means for generating at least one inaudible disturbance signal;

combining means for combining the original audio signal and the at least one disturbance signal and for providing a combined signal; and

output means for outputting said combined signal such that the combined signal sounds undisturbed when played and recording of the combined signal by said recorder is disturbed,

wherein the signal generation means generates a high-frequency disturbance signal of the at least one inaudible disturbance signal which is multiplied with the original audio signal, the high-frequency disturbance signal having a frequency of approximately 20 kHz

~~The device according to claim 29,~~

wherein the original audio signal comprises a digital signal representation involving a sampling frequency, and wherein the signal generating means generates a high-frequency disturbance signal having a frequency which varies in time, preferably from approximately half to approximately three quarters of the sampling frequency.

Claims 31-35 (Canceled).